

# THE ALMA RECORD.

VOL. XXXIX—NO. 44

ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 31, 1918

WHOLE NUMBER 2028

## R & P TRACTOR IS NEW CONCERN

New Company for Alma is Capitalized at \$500,000.00 and Under Illinois Laws.

## INDUSTRY STARTS AT ONCE

F. W. Ruggles Heads New Company, In Which Burt, Parsons, Smith and Green are Directors.

Alma has a new company now which promises soon to assume good proportions, and in time become one of the leading industries of the Truck City. The new concern is a creature of Alma brains, backed to a great extent by local people, and will be known as the R & P Tractor company. The tractor company was very recently incorporated under the laws of the state of Illinois, and was incorporated for \$500,000. It has moved into the north wing of plant three of the Republic Motor Truck Company, Inc., for the present time, and machinery is arriving and being installed now for the concern and it is expected that active operations will be started in the very near future, possibly less than a week.

There is a significance attached to the name of the company, especially the R & P. The first letter, R, is for Ruggles, and the P, is for Channing Parsons. Both men have had a great deal to do with the development of the tractor, months of time having been devoted to working out the finest tractor that could be put upon the market at a price which would sell it. The ability of both of these men in mechanical lines is unquestioned. Both have had much to do with the Republic Motor Truck Company, Inc. Mr. Ruggles worked out the truck which has put Alma on the world map. Mr. Parsons for some years was the superintendent of this concern and is a man of unquestioned skill in these lines.

The tractor, which this company will put upon the market, has been the result of months of experimenting and perfecting, until it is believed that a tractor has been devised, which will rank among the very best upon the market.

At a recent meeting of those interested in the new company the following directors were elected: F. W. Ruggles of Alma, T. A. Burt of Urbana, Illinois; Channing Parsons of Alma; Harry Green of Urbana, Illinois; and Ezra L. Smith of Alma.

Following the election of the directors, the directors met and elected officers for the concern. The officers are: President, F. W. Ruggles, of Alma; vice president and general manager, Channing Parsons, of Alma; secretary, Harry Green of Urbana, Ill.; treasurer, T. A. Burt, of Urbana, Illinois.

The company had hoped to be able to start active operations by February 1st, but the storms of the forepart of the week delayed machinery and materials and it may be several days before the active manufacturing operation are started.

## IT PAID THEM

Good Advertising Gets Business Results Says One Solid Alma Store.

The Economy Shoe store of this city recently placed an advertisement in the columns of the Alma Record, calling attention to one certain shoe, and did not advertise this shoe in any other way. The concern checked the sales from this advertising, and found that the results far surpassed the expectations, proving the value of the advertising columns of this paper.

Mr. J. C. Chick has written the following letter of acknowledgement in regard to this advertisement and in regard to the value of Record advertising:

Alma, Mich., January 29, 1918  
Mr. C. F. Brown,  
Editor, Alma Record,  
Alma, Mich.

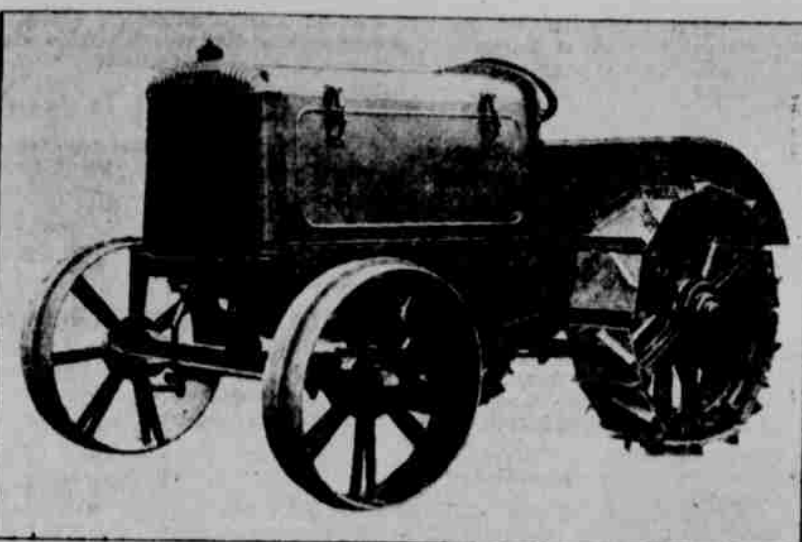
Dear Sir:—  
In a recent issue of your paper, The Alma Record, we advertised a certain shoe at a popular price, and we felt so gratified at the result obtained through this small ad, that we wish to express our appreciation of your paper as an advertising medium.

We traced directly over thirty sales in one day to this ad, and as many more in the next few days. If anyone asks us, "Does advertising pay?" we'll say, "She do!"

Sincerely,  
Economy Shoe Store,  
J. C. C.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Following is the list of marriage licenses of the past two weeks.  
Ernest Schultheis, 21, St. Louis.  
Vernice Lapey, 22, Middleton.  
Clyde Hull, 22, Saginaw.  
Lealie Walker, 17, Washington.  
Roxilla Culver, 19, Edmore.  
Ben Collison, 28, Wheeler.  
Florence Ethel Allen, 20, Breckenridge.  
Lewis Russell, 22, Alma.  
Louise Pfeiffer, 20, North Shade.



THE ALMA MADE R & P TRACTOR

The above is taken from a photo of the R & P Tractor, the product of the R & P Tractor Company, Alma's newest industry which is capitalized at \$500,000.00. Operations are to start at once.

## LEAVES ALMA

Dr. McIntosh Will Take Place of Dr. Marselles in This City.

This evening, Dr. Marselles, who came to this city some months ago to take charge of the practice of Dr. Sluyter in this city, will leave for Chicago, where he will practice. Dr. McIntosh of Kirksville, Mo., will arrive this evening and will assume the practice which Dr. Sluyter had, and which Dr. Marselles took charge of. He comes to this city highly recommended.

## NEW GROCERY STORE.

M. M. Hauck will open a new grocery store in the Morrison building at the corner of Ely and Grafton, on Friday, February 1. He plans on carrying a complete line and will run a cash and carry store under the name of the Sellright store.

## PHYSICAL EXAMINATION OF DRAFT POSTPONED

Those of Saturday Will Not Be Held Until Monday—All Men Not Yet Classified by Board.

The physical examination of drafted men which had been called for this coming Saturday by the Grafton County Draft Board, has been postponed until Monday, February 4th, at the draft office in Alma.

One hundred men from class one have been called for the examination from various parts of the county, and those passing will probably be sent to Camp Custer, Battle Creek, about February 15th.

Owing to errors in questionnaires, which necessitates the calling back of the registrants in many cases, to answer questions and complete their papers, the board finds it an almost endless job to look over the 2,000 papers.

About fifteen hundred have so far been disposed of the classification cards are being sent out just as rapidly as possible, to the registrants. All claims for industrial and agricultural classifications which are being passed on by the district board at Lansing, are coming in very slowly, due to the fact that this board is also buried under the great amount of work which it has on its hands.

The new ruling compelling registrants who have married since May 18, 1917, to furnish proof to the local board that marriage was not entered into to avoid draft, is causing considerable worry on the part of some.

Out of those whom the board have classified from three hundred have been placed in class one. Many of these have industrial and agricultural claims and will undoubtedly be placed in class four by the district board, although this board is going over these claims very carefully and will leave some in the first class.

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## SPECIAL SCIENCE LECTURES

Because of the prominent part that science is taking in the present war the faculty at the college has decided to offer a series of popular lectures that will be of some benefit to the men who are going into the army or navy and also to the women who will have to deal with the food and fuel problem at home. The heads of the departments of physics, chemistry, biology and mathematics will each offer eight lectures in their respective lines. The topics will be treated in a popular way and no previous study of the sciences will be necessary in order that one may have an intelligent understanding of them. Visitors will be welcomed at any or all of the lectures.

Professor F. E. West of the Department of Chemistry will discuss the following topics: "What is man?" "What is Food?" "War Recipes, Good and Bad," "Fuel and How to Save It," "Explosives, Ancient and Modern," "Disinfectants and Antiseptics," "Poisons, Natural and Synthetic," "Gases used in War."

The titles of the lectures to be given by the other department will be given in next week's Record.

Rex Beach's greatest story, "The Auction Block"—Idlehour, Sunday—adv.

## THINK WOMAN WAS SLUGGED

Clara Trietch Unable to Give Lucid Story in Regard to Injuries Sustained.

## WAS UNCONSCIOUS FOR A TIME

Two Men Followed Her When She Started Home and It Is Thought She Was Attacked by Them.

Mrs. Clara T. Trietch, living near Pleasant avenue, is carrying a large sized lump on the back of her head, believed to have come through her having been slugged Sunday night while on her way home from the movie.

According to information which has been gathered the woman left the movie about 6:00 p. m. and started home. When she arrived near Swarthout's grocery she noticed two men following her.

When she reached the gas plant she noticed that they were just behind her. Some time later she picked herself up in a dazed condition. She was lying on the railroad crossing by the plant on East Superior street. Her muff was lying in a ditch by the side of the walk, and her pocket book was still in it, but so bent that it could not be closed. It still contained a small sum of money which she had when she left the movie.

It is believed that the woman was slugged, rather than that she was injured from a fall. If the latter had been the case, there is every reason to believe that the two men who were behind her would have given her assistance.

When she came to, in a dazed condition the men were gone, and there was a lump on the back of her head, indicating that she had been hit from behind, and probably by the two men who were just behind her.

She made her way home, arriving there at 7:10, which would indicate that the woman had been unconscious for some little time. She was still badly dazed when she arrived home and a doctor was called. It is reported that the doctor and the woman's mother hold the opinion that the woman was slugged.

The matter was reported to Chief of Police Vibber by the doctor who had charge of the case, but the parents of the woman, had not reported it up until noon yesterday. The woman and her husband were parted last July.

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## OUR ADVERTISERS

Alma Record Advertising Heavy This Week Because of Sales.

One two-page and three single-page advertisements grace the columns of the Alma Record this week, all of them calling attention to sales in one way or another.

The D. W. Robinson stores announce a big removal sale with a two-page advertisement, the second of this concern has carried in the Record this month, because of the superior advertising results that can be obtained through the Record with its greater number of readers. The front of the Robinson stores carry the largest sale sign which has ever appeared in Alma. The sign stretches across the entire three store fronts.

The first State Bank of this city carries a page advertisement this week calling attention to National Thrift fund and to the War Savings Certificates and Thrift Stamps. The slogan of the campaign is carried in each corner of the advertisement.

The W. S. Proud Department Store carries a page advertisement of its February clearance sale, in dry goods and shoes. This concern is another of the hustling Alma business houses which realizes that Record advertising gets results and its advertising is done through the columns of the Record almost exclusively.

The Francis O. Lindquist Alma store on State street comes forth this week with a full page advertisement announcing a big clearance sale, which lists practically everything in this store.

## MURDER CASES

Murder Cases of Eichorn, Brennan, and Mrs. Johnson Start Next Week.

The cases of Albert Eichorn of Ithaca, John F. Brennan of Flint and Mrs. Inez Johnson of this city, will come up in the February term of court which starts on Monday of next week.

The case of Albert Eichorn is the first case of the circuit court calendar and it is expected that this will be the first case that will be started, and that the preliminary work on the case will start Tuesday.

The case of John F. Brennan will follow as soon as Eichorn's is disposed of and then the case of Mrs. Inez Johnson will be started. These three cases, which have evolved from the death of Beatrice Epler of this city on the night of September 4, 1917 by strangulation, will hold down the spotlight of the circuit court calendar and will draw the attention of the entire county, without a doubt.

It has been years since Gratiot county has had a murder case, which has stirred the county to greater depths than the present mystery, because of the manner in which the Alma girl came to her death.

Dorsey Bush, alias Dorsey Willis, held in Illinois on a charge of murder in connection with the case has not yet been returned from that state, although it is reported that the extradition papers are all made out and waiting. It leads to the belief that the prosecution is not in any great hurry to get him back to Gratiot county and that he will appear here when the cases get well under way. No one seems to know just when he will be returned.

It is believed that the prosecution has dug up more evidence since the hearings took place in the case, but just how strong it might be and just what nature it takes, is being kept in the dark by the prosecutor's office. Prosecutor Ora L. Smith will have the assistance of the former circuit judge, Kelly S. Searl, in these cases, and it is expected that a great legal battle will be waged in each, the like of which Gratiot county has not seen in years.

## A. H. S. CADETS ARE TO HAVE ARMY RIFLES

Seventy-Five Springfield Rifles Coming For Local Cadets, Is Word From Fordney.

It will be highly interesting to Alma people to know that the Alma high school cadets are soon to be equipped with Springfield rifles, which should arrive in the very near future.

John C. Chick, who has charge of the drilling of the cadets received a letter from Congressman Fordney a few days ago saying that the rifles, which had been asked for by Alma parties, were being shipped. Seventy-five rifles are included in the shipment which the cadets are to receive.

Very recently most of the cadets secured suits, and it is understood that those who do not have them will very soon be fitted up with the suits. The young lads who are wearing these suits already have a military bearing which will become the more so when their equipment is completed.

The young lads have been drilling for some three or four months now and are becoming very proficient in the various movements, and drillmaster Chick is now planning on having the lads drill some night at the gym, as an added attraction to some basketball game.

## A PLUCKY LITTLE HERO

Little Henry Grace of Ithaca was destined to be a hero. Last Saturday afternoon while his father was working at the Republic plant in Alma and his mother was calling on her neighbor a fire broke out in the Grace home.

The fire which was caused by a defective chimney spread rapidly through the house and had reached a dangerous point before it was discovered by the children.

Six year old Henry led his sister by the hand and felt his way to the front. The door was locked. Henry looked for another means of escape. Already the rooms were filled with smoke so the little fellow had a difficult task before him.

He then led his little sister to the kitchen door, but only to find that the door was hooked with the hook too high for him to reach. Quick as a wink he grasped the fire shovel and raised the hook. Then he was out of immediate danger but he still had the woodshed door to open. This was fastened by a wooden button and like the hook on the kitchen door, was too high for his little hands to reach.

Finally with the aid of an old broom handle he succeeded in opening the door. They emerged from the flaming house as an anxious crowd was gathering and a clanging fire department came speeding down the street. The house and much of the furniture was lost but by the efforts of the little hero a son and daughter were saved from the flames.

Julian Eltinge in "The Clever Mrs. Carfax"—Idlehour, Thursday—adv.

Watch "For the Freedom of the World."—adv.

## TWENTY-THREE ENLISTED HERE

January Total Not Enough to Give City of Alma Central Recruiting Station.

## SIXTY-FIVE IN TWO MONTHS

Eighty Were Needed in Two Months To Get Central Station—Office Ranks High in Poor Month.

With the end of the month of January only a few hours away, there is no hope that the local recruiting office will be able to secure forty enlistments this month and become a central recruiting office as a result.

The office has made a splendid record for the month, even though it has fallen considerably below the forty mark, as twenty-three young men have enlisted here during the first month of the year up to this morning. It is required that an office secure over forty enlistments for two consecutive months, before it is classified as a central recruiting office and for this reason they are seldom found in cities of under fifty thousand population, especially in Michigan.

During the month of December Tom Boston, in charge of the recruiting office here, secured forty-two enlistments and this gave rise to the hope that Alma might be able to secure a central office. Two men were sent here to aid Boston in the recruiting work during the month, but the sum total of the efforts of the three was to secure twenty-three men during the course of January, up to the last day. Boston has the promise of several enlistments the forepart of February, but could not get the men under the wire for January enlistments.

It is rather remarkable that so many should enlist here in two months and it is a credit to the recruiting officers and to the manhood of Gratiot county that during two months sixty-five men should enlist.

Those who have enlisted so far this month are Delta C. Parrish, Clayton Mallory, Carlton Spooner, John Lott, Jay Prescott, Jennings Donaldson, Henry Ohmer, S. J. Bailey, Wm. Rawn, Ernest Evered Gaylord Foulton, Louis Neville, Louis McNeil, Martin Orson, Paul Shippy, Carl Pease, Melvin Peters, Wayne Knight, W. F. Campbell, Charles Porterfield, Hazen Miller, Victor Harris and Perry Pettit.

## SOMETHING NEW

Alma College has Course for Men Who are Liable to be Drafted.

As a special contribution to the preparation of young men liable to national service, the faculty of Alma college has prepared a new course which aims in a practical way to provide the young men with information about the applications of science in the war.

Gas masks, diet, frost bite, purifying water, finding one's way by the stars, location of objects by other means than that of sight, are on the long list of subjects to be considered in the course. The college hopes to prepare all her young men who go out to meet the ordinary dangers of trench and field. A special course in conversational French has also been organized to which only young men will be admitted.

Spring vacation at the College has been abolished in order to save time for the young men who may be called into service, or who may go to the farms in the spring.

## SONG FOR COMMUNITY SINGING

Those taking part in the community singing here are requested to learn this song, which will be sung at the various meetings.

Your flag and my flag  
Your flag and my flag  
And how it flies to-day  
In your land and my land  
And half the world away  
Rose-red and blood-red  
The stripes forever gleam;  
Snow-white and soul-white—  
The good forefathers' dream;  
Sky blue and true blue,  
With stars to gleam aright  
The glorious guidon of the day;  
A shelter through the night.

Your flag and my flag!  
To every star and stripe  
The drums beat as hearts beat  
And flutters shrilly pipe!  
Your flag and my flag!  
A blessing in the sky;  
Your hope and my hope  
It never hid a lie!  
Home land and far land  
And half the world around,  
Old glory hears our glad salute  
And ripples to the sound.

Your flag and my flag  
And, oh, how much to hold—  
Your land and my land  
Secure within its folds  
Your heart and my heart  
Beat quicker at the sight;  
Sun-kissed and wind tossed  
Red and blue and white.  
The flag for you and me  
Glorified all else beside  
The red and white and blue.

## GOOD SALE

Banks and Post Offices Disposing of Number of War Savings Stamps.

War Savings Stamps and Thrift Stamps, which are being issued by the Government as a means of borrowing money, are enjoying a fairly good sale in various sections of the county according to reports.

It has been estimated that the First State Bank of this city is leading the county in the sale of these stamps. Reports are that this institution has sold about seven hundred dollars worth of them. The post office here has also sold a good number of these stamps.

Other portions of the county are reporting good sales, and there is every indication that they will improve materially within the next thirty days, in all sections of the county and that Gratiot will do her full part in taking up these small loans which are asked for by the Government.

## ANNOUNCEMENT DINNER

Mrs. Paul Crandell Gave Dinner in Honor Miss Laura Crandell

Mrs. Paul Crandell recently gave an announcement dinner in honor of Miss Laura Crandell, at her home on Allen street, at which time the announcement of Miss Crandell's coming marriage to Mr. G. T. Argent of Gary, Indiana, on February 16, was made. The home was prettily decorated for the affair, the living room of the home being decorated in pink and white and the dining room in blue and white. Plates were laid for twenty-five guests.

Last Saturday Mrs. Wm. Moody entertained six guests at luncheon in honor of Miss Crandell. The home was very prettily decorated for the occasion. Other such functions will be held during the course of the coming two weeks.

## CARBURETOR COMPANY HELD ANNUAL MEETING

Directors and Officers Elected For Coming Year—Directors Increased By Two.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Western Carburetor Company of this city was held at the offices of the company at the plant last Friday and directors and officers for the coming year were elected.

It was decided at the annual meeting to increase the directorate of the company from five members to seven. Those elected as directors of the company were Albert Frevert, Harley Williams, George Sandel, C. O. Ward, C. M. Johnson, P. M. Smith and J. N. Day.

The election of the directors was followed by the election of the officers of the company. The directors elected officers as follows: President, Albert Frevert; vice-president, George Sandel; secretary, Harley Williams; treasurer, C. O. Ward. The officers are all local people.

The prospects of the Western Carburetor company were gone into at length at the annual meeting and the stockholders, directors and officers of the company feel that the concern is about to enter upon an era of great success. It is believed that within the next three months the company will be making at least one hundred carburetors a day, and that within a year the output will be from two to three hundred carburetors a day.

Attention has been called to the fact that the company expects shortly to secure the services of an efficiency man so that everything may be put upon the most systematic basis possible.

It has been noted that the Chicago Bell Telephone Co. now has five of its automobiles equipped with these carburetors and during the recent storm, they were the only ones out of a fleet of seventy-five which were able to travel, and as a result the company has ordered seventy more to equip the rest of the fleet. This is one of the tests which is proving that the carburetors are worth the while.

The concern recently tied up a contract with the Karo-Karburetor Co. of Chicago, which now calls for the complete output of the company, and it is necessary to increase this output at a very early date, owing to the demands for the carburetors.

## ARTISTS IN GRAND OPERA.

The advertising department of the Pathe Freres Phonograph Co., New York, has called the attention of Pathe dealers to the fact that a number of famous artists, who are members of the Chicago Opera Co., record exclusively for the Pathe library. As the Chicago Opera Co. began this week a four weeks' stay at the Lexington Avenue Opera House, Fifty-first street and Lexington avenue, these Pathe artists will be featured extensively by the Pathe Freres Co. in the local newspapers.

The members of the Chicago Opera Co. who are exclusive Pathe artists are the following: Lucien Muratore, world-famous tenor; Anna Fitzu, Rosa Raisa, Rimini, Maguenat, Marcel Journet and Chenal.

These artists will appear during the company's New York season.

## FORMER ALMA MAN MURDERED

James G. Drew, Son of Joseph Drew, Old Alma Resident, Murdered in Saginaw.

## GOOD CLEWS ARE LACKING

Saginaw Police Made No Arrests in Case Yet—Body Brought to Alma For Burial.

James G. Drew, aged thirty years, a former resident of this city, was shot and fatally injured in Saginaw Saturday night and died early the following morning in the Saginaw General hospital.

Drew was the driver of a jitney in that city, and had been called to drive a man to the Herzog plant, where the passenger said he was to meet a party. When the plant was reached the rider said he must have made a mistake in the place and that he should have gone to Mackinaw street to meet his party.

Drew cut over to Mackinaw street and turned east. As the jitney reached the corner of Mason street the passenger shot, the bullet going over Drew's head and smashing the windshield. Drew started to turn around, but by this time the other had the revolver close against him, and again fired, the bullet piercing the right lung.

Three men, who heard the shot gave chase to the unknown man as he alighted from the jitney and followed him several blocks, and then dropped the chase, as the man was still carrying his revolver.

They turned back then and gave aid to Drew. The police were called and Drew was taken to the hospital, where he died at 7:00 a. m. Sunday.

Before his death Drew gave a full account of the shooting. He said that he did not know the passenger of the jitney, but gave a good description of him. According to Drew the man was about 19 years of age, five feet five or six inches in height, wore a black stocking cap and a tight fitting overcoat. Drew said that he weighed about 135 pounds. The only clue which the Saginaw police have is said to be a pair of glasses which the man dropped when he started to run.

He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Drew, 1323 Holland street, Saginaw, who formerly lived in this city, where Mr. Drew at one time owned a moving picture show. James G. Drew was born in Alma, April 3, 1887, and lived in this city with his parents for a number of years. He had been in Saginaw for about seven years and had operated a jitney for some time. He is survived by his parents, his wife, and three children, and by two sisters.

Tuesday morning the body was brought to this city, the funeral services and burial being here. The body was placed in Riverside cemetery.

The police of Saginaw appear to be baffled by the case, although they have been giving a great deal of time to the murder. The theory of robbery is said to be entertained by the police. No arrests had been made up to this morning.

## HILLSDALE FRIDAY

College Five will Open M. I. A. A Season with Hillsdale Collegians.

The Alma college basketball team will get its first Michigan Intercollegiate test Friday evening with the Hillsdale college five which is reported to be a strong quintet this year, and indications are that there will be a hot battle for the night's honors.

As this will be the first M. I. A. A. test of the season the game will be of more than usual interest as it will give an idea of the ranking of the Maroon and Cream with the other teams of the association. It will be only a slight comparison of course, due to the losses which the various teams have suffered from last year by the war and by graduation.

No hope is available on the teams of the association so far this year, and how Alma will stack up with the others teams cannot be told until the season is well under way, and will gradually be worked out as the various teams play.

Indications are, however, that the Helmer coached five, has the promise of rounding into a speedy quintet, possibly better than the team which represented Alma college a year ago and won second honors in the association race, being next to Kalamazoo. Kalamazoo is believed to be much weaker this year, because of her severe losses. Alma's prospects for a great fight for the title are good, but a dark horse may spring up and upset everything.

## NOTICE TO WATER CONSUMERS

You are hereby notified that the City of Alma will not send out any water rent statements. Water rent payable February 1st to 15th inclusive. After that date, water will be turned off. By order of Water Commissioner, H. J. Voller.